

**SPRING ISSUE**

**QUARTER 3, FY21**

# **EDUCATION AND INCENTIVES NEWSLETTER**

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MANAGER



## **URGENT ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

- Ms. Kelli Damlo has joined the Federal Incentives Team and Mr. Jason Camacho is our new State Incentives Manager! Please join us in welcoming them to our Education & Incentives team!!
- Transition of GoArmyEd to ArmyIgnitED is **DELAYED!**
- Follow us on Facebook:



<https://www.facebook.com/educationandincentives>

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If you have any questions about education benefits call 651-282-4589 or email us at: [ng.mn.mnarnng.mbx.assets-education@mail.mil](mailto:ng.mn.mnarnng.mbx.assets-education@mail.mil)

# **ArmyIgnitED DELAYED**

## **Funding Options for Spring/Summer Term**

**The transition from GoArmyEd to ArmyIgnitED is currently delayed. The MN Education Office is committed to ensuring Soldiers have the benefits they need to pursue higher education. We will keep you informed on the way ahead and the projected go live for ArmyIgnitED as soon as more information is made available. Below are some options to assist you in funding your education.**

- State Tuition Reimbursement (STR) is authorized for classes that started 12Feb until ArmyIgnitED goes live. Soldiers are not required to have applied and received Federal TA during this time frame to be eligible for STR. Soldiers must meet all requirements to use STR and work through their units for submission.
- Soldiers may use all GI Bill benefits in conjunction with STR not to exceed the cost of tuition. Soldiers who are eligible for CH 1606 GI Bill are encouraged to contact their School Certifying Official (SCO) to discuss their options.

If you have questions about education benefits call 651-282-4589 or email us at [ng.mn.mnarng.mbx.assets-education@mail.mil](mailto:ng.mn.mnarng.mbx.assets-education@mail.mil) to speak with an Education Counselor!

# NEEDS ASSESSMENT SURVEY



## FY 21 ARNG EDUCATIONAL SURVEY

Have you used or do you plan to use your education benefits such as the GI Bill, Tuition Assistance, Credentialing Assistance, Testing Programs?



**PLEASE TAKE A FEW MINUTES TO  
COMPLETE OUR SURVEY!**

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/FY21ARNGSurvey>

**The survey is available until 30Jun21**

# Recent Activations and GI Bill Benefits

**The intent of this article is to clarify some confusion in the field regarding periods of activation and the impact on your GI Bill.**

## Activations for MN Civil Unrest

Soldiers who are activated for civil unrest in the state of Minnesota DO NOT qualify for any additional GI Bill benefits. Periods of State Active Duty do not meet the criteria to qualify for federal programs. The funding authorities come from the state budget and not federal sources and thus would not qualify as a period of active service per rules for the Post-9/11 GI Bill (Chapter 33.)

## Activations for DC Capitol Civil Unrest

Soldiers who are activated for civil unrest at the National Capitol MAY qualify for any additional GI Bill benefits. The period of active service of the 59th Presidential Inauguration: January 11-24, 2021 qualifies for the Post-9/11 GI Bill (Chapter 33). This period may be extended but we have not run into any known cases of MNARNG Soldiers exceeding these dates. Soldiers who already have Chapter 33 may stack their time on top of their previous periods of service to increase their percentage eligibility tiers. Soldiers who did not previously have Chapter 33 must wait until their cumulative service exceeds 90 days of active duty under federal orders to be qualified for this benefit. They cannot claim this until their DD 214 is produced showing an honorable discharge. Initial eligibility will be at the 50% tier.

## Activations for COVID-19 Response

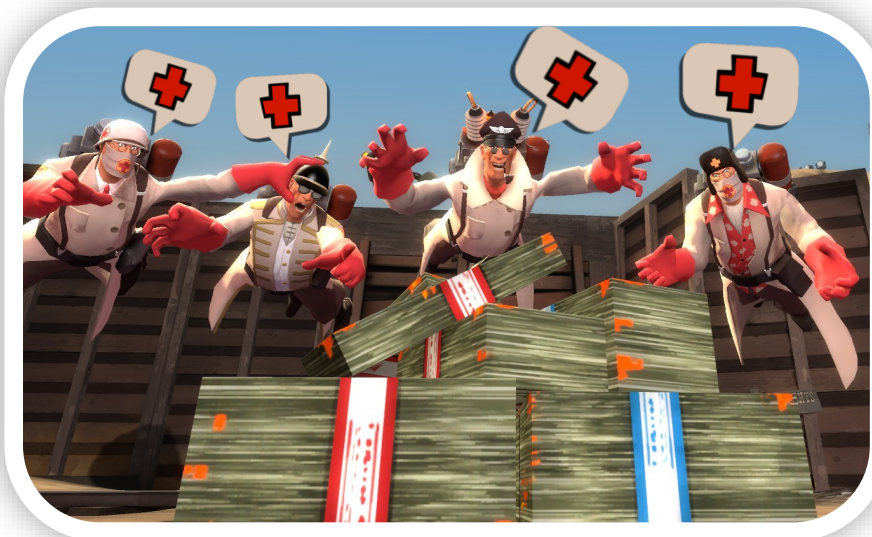
This one is more tricky. Soldiers MAY qualify for Post-9/11 GI Bill (Chapter 33) but only under extremely limited circumstances. Most Soldiers activated in a medical capacity started later in 2020 under state orders and then converted to federally funded COVID-19 orders. Only the period of service under federally funded orders qualify for Chapter 33 GI Bill. Soldiers who already have Chapter 33 may stack their time on top of their previous periods of service to increase their percentage eligibility tiers. Soldiers who did not previously have Chapter 33 must wait until their cumulative service exceeds 90 days of active duty under federal orders to be qualified for this benefit. They cannot claim this until their DD 214 is produced showing an honorable discharge. Initial eligibility will be at the 50% tier. The period of service under State Active Duty will not count towards Chapter 33 GI Bill.

**Soldiers with questions about qualifying service may call the VA at 1-888-442-4551**

## MEDIC RECERTIFICATION BONUS

If you are a medic who recertified with the NREMT this year but haven't applied for your Medic Bonus, you will miss out on **\$1000!**

The Medic Bonus Addendum and a copy of the NREMT card must be signed and turned into your unit admin for upload to the database NLT 30 June 2021 the year that you renew your NREMT certification.



## WHO QUALIFIES FOR THE MEDIC BONUS?

The Medic Recertification Bonus is authorized for current members of the Minnesota National Guard who:

- Have successfully completed basic training (BT) or basic military training (BMT)
- Have successfully completed medic MOS- or AFSC-producing advanced training
- Are serving satisfactorily (no AWOLs, no more than 4 excused absences, not flagged, passing APFT and HT/WT)
- Are currently serving in a duty position that requires EMT-B or higher certification (secondary MOS and civilian positions do not qualify for the Medic Recertification Bonus. )
- Have a current NREMT Card (EMT or higher)
- Agree to serve for a period of two years starting the day after NREMT recertification. Must reenlist if this requirement is not met.



Airmen in the AFSCs 4N0X1/X4N0X1 may qualify for this bonus.

## IT IS AS SIMPLE AS:







## HOW TO APPLY FOR THE MEDIC BONUS:

To receive your payment, you must first submit the appropriate documents to your unit to prove eligibility.

- Annex C-1 Medic Recertification Bonus Form
- NREMT card with EMT or higher level certification
- Annex D-1 with W-9
- You must extend to your NREMT expiration date

The Initial payment of \$500 will be paid one year after NREMT recertification date. The subsequent payment of \$500 will be paid two years after NREMT recertification date.

The Medic Bonus requires medics to have enough time remaining on their contract to meet their NREMT expiration date. This means you may have to extend.

Medics whose NREMT cards expire in 2023 must complete the Medic Bonus paperwork no later than June 30th of 2023. If you pass this date without submitting the correct paperwork to your unit, you will not be eligible for payment. Payments will be processed on March 31st of 2022 and 2023.

***If you pass June 30th of your recertification year without submitting paperwork, you will not be eligible for payment without an approved ETP***

## FINAL THOUGHTS ON THE MEDIC BONUS

Remember as a medic it is your responsibility to maintain your civilian NREMT certification and to do the work required to recertify it.

Many units cannot provide medics with all the CEU hours required by the NREMT, due to time or money constraints. The Medic Recertification Bonus program is an excellent way assist medics who were paying out of pocket to complete CEUs.

The entire Medic Recertification Bonus program was established to reward you for keeping your NREMT up to date.

Remember to file your bonus every year you recertify and remind other medics you know to do so as well.



# Officer Retention Bonus

## \$20,000 Bonus / 3 year commitment

### WHAT IS THIS?

This is a federal bonus for Officers and Warrant Officers. It was created to incentivize officers to continue to serve for an additional three years.

### HOW MUCH IS THE BONUS AMOUNT?

This bonus is a \$20,000 bonus (minus taxes) paid in two (2) installments. The first 50% is paid to the Officer after the bonus is validated and signed. The second 50% is paid on the two year anniversary.

### WHAT ARE THE ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS?

- Valid AOC/MOS and officer is in that position
- Less than 16 years of service
- Must have completed commissioning obligation
- MTOE/Medical TDA/Cyber Unit
- Must not be AGR or Title 32 technician
- Can't be flagged
- Can't be in an excess position
- Must agree to serve 3 years
- Must not be currently receiving a federal incentive

### Qualifying AOC's:

MOS/AOC	MOS/AOC	MOS/AOC	MOS/AOC
11A	170A	35E	890A
120A	170B	35F	89E
125D	17A	35G	90A
12A	17B	36A	913A
131A	180A	37A	914A
13A	18A	38A	915A
140A	19A	40A	915E
140E	255A	420A	919A
14A	255N	420C	91A
150A	255S	42B	920A
150U	255Z	42H	920B
151A	25A	46A	921A
152H	270A	48X	922A
153A	27A	49A	923A
153D	27B	50A	92A
153L	30A	51C	948B
153M	311A	51Z	948D
154C	31A	56A	
154F	350F	57A	
155A	350G	59A	
155E	351L	740A	
15A	351M	74A	
15B	352N	880A	
15C	353T	882A	
15D	35D	88A	



## **STATE TUITION REIMBURSEMENT (STR)**

With spring school terms wrapping up, now is a great time to make sure that you have all your paperwork in order to request state tuition reimbursement.

Following the tips below will get you your payment as quick as possible:

1. Check with your unit to make sure that:
  - A. We have your current banking information on file –If not, complete a State EFT Form (Annex D-1) with your unit admin ASAP.
  - B. You have a current MOU uploaded into the State Incentives database.
2. You must submit the following forms and supporting documents to the unit no later than **90 days** from the last official day of the course/term:
  - A. STR Payment Request Form.
  - b. Grade Report. Reports downloaded from the Internet are acceptable.
  - c. Final fee statement provided by your school which clearly shows the amount of tuition
3. If you did not apply for or receive FTA, you must check “NO” on your payment request form and clearly state the reason why. Failure to do this will result in your payment request being returned for corrections.

### **Things to Remember:**

- ♦ Soldiers (including officers) **MUST** apply for Federal Tuition Assistance (FTA) **BEFORE** they are eligible to apply for State Tuition Reimbursement (STR).
- ♦ SM **MUST** have a passing and current APFT/HTWT for the entire semester to be eligible for STR.
- ♦ STR will not fund a degree equal to or less than SM's current degree level. IE: If a Service member has a Master's degree, STR will not fund another Master's degree or anything lower.
- ♦ Maximum yearly STR benefit is \$18,000 per fiscal year for undergraduate coursework or \$28,000 per fiscal year for graduate coursework (1 July through 30 June).
- ♦ The GRADUATE STR rate is up to 75% of University of Minnesota's graduate rate (\$1,098.75 per credit)

**If you have any questions about education benefits call 651-282-4589 or email us at: [nq.mn.mnarnq.mbx.assets-education@mail.mil](mailto:nq.mn.mnarnq.mbx.assets-education@mail.mil)**



## Post-9/11 GI Bill® & Transfer of Education Benefits

**April 2021**

**Marketing Focus**

### For More Information:

- Contact the Education Support Center: 866-ARNGEDU (276-4338)
- Visit Us On-line: [www.nationalguard.com/education](http://www.nationalguard.com/education)
- Contact the MN Education Office at 651-282-4589

## ***Post-9/11 GI Bill® (Chapter 33) and Transfer of Education Benefits (TEB)***



### **Post-9/11 GI Bill®:**

#### ♦ How Do I Qualify?

- Serve at least 90 days in a period of qualifying active duty on or after September 11, 2001.
- Serve for 30 continuous days and separate due to a service-connected disability or injury

#### ♦ What Do I Get?

- Tuition and Fees:
  - Up to 100% of in-state tuition at public schools
  - Up to \$25,162/year at private/foreign schools
- Books and Supply Stipend
- Monthly Housing Allowance (MAH)
- Payments pro-rated based on your qualifying service

### **Transfer of Education Benefits (TEB):**

#### ♦ How Do I Qualify:

- Be currently serving in the Uniformed Services, with at least six years completed
- Qualify for the Post-9/11 GI Bill® at any payment tier
- NOT be flagged for adverse action, APFT/ABCP failure, or as Unsatisfactory Participation
- Have at least 4 yrs remaining/agree to a 4 yr service obligation from the date of your transfer request

#### ♦ What Do I Get?

- Dependents receive same payment tier as the Soldier
- Spouses may use transferred benefits immediately
- Child/Children cannot use the benefit until transferring Soldier has completed 10 yrs in the Armed Forces

# MINNESOTA GI BILL FOR LICENSE & CERTIFICATIONS

## **MN GI BILL FOR LICENSURE AND CERTS**

Did you know that the Minnesota G.I. Bill can reimburse your fees for any licensure or certification you hold? This includes the fees for professional licensure, renewal fees, and any required continuing education.

The Minnesota G.I. Bill provides up to \$10,000 in employment training, higher education, and licensure/certification benefits to Minnesota's Veterans. This benefit is unrelated to the federal G.I. Bill. Even if you have exhausted your federal benefits, you may still have Minnesota G.I. Bill benefits remaining.

## **MN GI BILL ELIGIBILITY**

To be eligible for this program, Veterans must be residents of the State of Minnesota. To clarify, a Veteran is a person who has served honorably in any branch of the U.S. Armed Forces. These benefits also extend to those in the Reserve or National Guard who have honorably served at least 5 years with at least one day on or after September 11, 2001. Surviving spouses and children of deceased Veterans or Veterans whom the VA has determined are 100% disabled due to military service are also eligible.

## **APPLICATION PROCESS**

The application process will ask Veterans for proof of service and residency in order to determine eligibility. To claim fees associated with licensure and certification, Veterans must also submit receipts and proof that they have successfully passed the exam or course. Training establishments and schools will be contacted by MDVA to verify training status or enrollment.

To apply for this program, please visit <https://gibill.mn.gov/home>. (This website will not work in Internet Explorer.) If you have immediate questions about the MN GI Bill certification and licensure program, call Eric Abell (651) 757-1565 or Ed Godfrey (651) 201-8257.

**\*\*If you have friends who may be interested in this program, please help us get the word out as it still doesn't have the level of visibility it deserves.\*\***

**If you have any questions about the MN GI Bill application please contact the LinkVet call center at 1-888-LINKVET for more information**